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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/301,656	04/28/1999	KINYA WASHINO	FNI-01503/03	5893
25006 7590 04/02/2010 GIFFORD, KRASS, SPRINKLE, ANDERSON & CITKOWSKI, P.C PO BOX 7021 TROY, MI 48007-7021				
EXAMINER DIEP, NHON THANH				
ART UNIT 2621		PAPER NUMBER		
MAIL DATE 04/02/2010		DELIVERY MODE PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary**Application No.**

09/301,656

Applicant(s)

WASHINO ET AL.

Examiner

Nhon T. Diep

Art Unit

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 February 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15, 17, 18, 25-36, 38, 41-47, 49-51, 53-57 and 60-76 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15, 17, 18, 25-36, 38, 41-47, 49-51, 53-57 and 60-76 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 April 1999 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 2/8/2010 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With regard to the applicant's argument that: "None of the passages indicated above teaches a digital monitoring and recording system or method that includes displaying digitized images in separate windows using a first set of temporal and spatial parameters and converting the video source images into a data storage format using a second set of temporal and spatial parameters associated with each image; and storing the converted images (Remarks, pages 2-3)." Or "There is no disclosure of varying the dimensions and the rate at which a particular image is stored in accordance with one of the externally derived commands (Remarks, page 3)."" or "The combination of the Boerger and Lobodzinski references or the combination of the Boerger, Lobodzinski and Toyoshima does not teach or disclose varying the dimensions and the rate at which a particular image is stored in accordance with one of the externally derived commands (Remarks, pages 4-5)."

2. The examiner respectfully disagrees. Figures 8-10 show a selection of some examples of split screen combinations of large pictures (col. 8, ln. 62-64), and "at every location, also the participant's own image can be displayed as a complete or full screen image or a mixture of split screen picture arrangement on individual monitors" (col. 4, ln. 6-9), or "This equipment is assigned to the participating locations 25 always for the duration of video conference and it substantially comprises large storage 5 and small

picture storage 6" (col. 7, ln. 12-15), or specifically, "The problem of how to make the video signals coming from the individual sources available in the central station, as both a complete or full screen picture, or a split screen picture composed of a large picture and at least one coarsened picture, i.e., reduced or small picture, can be solved, as to the hardware, with picture storage units, for example, having a storage capacity exceeding that of a large picture, i.e. a full screen picture. That is, the large pictures and small pictures are stored already in the way or size in which they are later to be available" (col. 3, ln. 52-62) and **"Parallel to large picture storage 5, a coarsened or small picture, i.e. one whose number of picture element is two-dimensional reduced (width and height)... and supplied to a small picture storage 6"** (col. 7, ln. 37-43). The fact that a coarsened or small picture is two-dimensionally reduced and supplied to a small picture storage, as interpreted by the examiner, in connection with "A central station is connected to all of the participant terminals and includes means for receiving source signals from and transmitting sink or received signals to all the participant terminals as well as storage units for storing in each case a large size picture and at least one small coarse grained picture for each active participant location or terminal, the central station having a programmed processor for receiving control signals from the participant terminals to control the display assembly and split screen of large and small or coarse pictures at the participant terminals individually" (col. 2, ln. 39-50), meet the limitation of "a digital monitoring and recording system or method that includes displaying digitized images in separate windows using a first set of temporal and spatial parameters and converting the video source images into a data storage

format using a second set of temporal and spatial parameters associated with each image; and storing the converted images" or "varying the dimensions and the rate at which a particular image is stored in accordance with one of the externally derived commands".

Having answered to all of the applicant's arguments, the examiner maintains the rejections of record and the rejections are repeated as below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 8-15, 25-32, 34-36, 41-42, 44-46, 49-51, 55-57, 60-61, and 75-76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Boerger et al (US 4,650,929) as set forth in the previous Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-7, 17-18, 33, 38, 43, 47, 53-54, 62-65, 67-71 and 73-74 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boerger et al, in view of Lobodzinski (US 5,619,995) as set forth in the previous Office Action.

7. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boerger et al, in view of Lobodzinski (US 5,619,995), and further in view of Toyoshima (US 5, 229,850) as set forth in the previous Office Action.

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nhon T. Diep whose telephone number is 571-272-7328. The examiner can normally be reached on m-f.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on 571-272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Nhon T Diep/

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Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2621